PENS, CROSBY CRUSH CAPS IN GAME 7, PG



нот ротато The possibility that Girl Guides of Canada will drop any reference to religion from its all-important Guiding Promise is drawing an angry response from parents, who have taken to Facebook to debate the issue.

Discussion began almost immediately on a Girl Guides Facebook page late last week after a survey on the promise arrived in the homes of Guiding leaders and families.

The debate almost universally condemned the survey for containing no option to keep references to God or faith in the promise.

Sunny **Side**

find the good news around Halifax and Canada. This is

also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at halifaxletters@

metronews.ca or on Twitter

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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



A police car is parked in front of Beazley Lanes in Cole Harbour yesterday. Police were gathering evidence at the bowling alley after a brazen robbery and abduction of an employee and her friend early yesterday morning

rrific' robbe

Owner shocked after women abducted, forced into bowling alley

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

On metronews.ca Al Peters said his bowling Share your SunnySide thoughts on Twitter using before. But nothing like #sunnyside
• See what other Metro police say four masked readers are doing and saying about SunnySide • Enter for a chance to win a Sony Blu-ray player

 Local — Aboriginal art exhibit going to Games, pg 3 Comment Steve Collins on relationalley has been hit by crime overnight yesterday, when men with guns forced two female victims, including one of his 19-year-old employees, into the Beazley Lanes bowling alley in Cole Harbour where they stole some cash.

"We've had armed robberies before, break and enters, but nothing as horrific as this," Peters said from the alley yesterday. "These guys were really mean bas-

Halifax RCMP is investi-

"Pretty scary how the whole situation played out. It looked like they were staking them out."

Halifax RCMP Cpl. Joe Taplin

gating the early morning abduction and robbery, which took place around 1 a.m. Police say four black males wearing bandanas forced the two victims into the alley where one of them worked

Police say the assailants pointed guns at the victims, forcing the employee to shut off the alarm and open the safe where an undisclosed amount of money was stolen. Peters said they also damaged several video surveillance cameras.

Police say the business closed for the evening at midnight and an employee locked up the store, set the security alarm and drove off with a female friend. The two then went to Porter's Lake and later pulled into the driveway on the 7,000 block of Highway 207.

That's when police say a vehicle pulled up beside them and several men forced the females back into their car. They then made them drive back to the bowling alley, with a car

%

driven by an assailant following from behind.

After the robbery, police say the men drove the victims to Montague Gold Mines, got out and left the females in their vehicle.

"Pretty scary how the whole situation played out,' Halifax RCMP Cpl. Joe Taplin said, as the victims also had bags placed over their heads during the ordeal. "It looked like they were staking them out."

Peters spoke with the 19year-old victim's father yesterday, and the other female victim, who is believed to be around the same age.

Police are continuing their investigation and no arrests have been made.

election date

PAUL MCLEOD

CAMPAIGN Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil wants to bring in fixed dates for elections, budgets and legislature sittings.

"It takes away the opportunity for a government to politicize an election campaign, to call one when it's to their political advantage," McNeil said yesterday.

He also said "It takes health authorities, away the school opportunity boards for a govand muernment to nicipal governpoliticize ments an election need to see budgcampaign." ets

Stephen released before the McNeil

fiscal year is over so they can plan their own spending.

McNeil said elections would be called the second Tuesday of October every four years. Budgets would be released by the third Tuesday in February. Sessions of the House of Assembly would begin by the second Monday of February and the first Monday of October.

NDP Leader Darrell Dexter doubted the effectiveness of McNeil's promises, saying "you can't legislate common sense or work ethic.'

McNeil also wants to ban governments spending millions of surplus dollars at the end of the fiscal year. He wants that money to be approved by the legislature.

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Pharmaceutical company cuts 15 jobs

A Windsor-based pharmaceutical company is reducing its workforce. Sepracor Canada has announced it's cutting 15 jobs at its Hants County facility later this month, part of a larger cost-cutting measure at the company's American corporate headquarters. HANTS JOURNAL

Local



High School Musical keeps rocking

Neptune Theatre's end-of-season hit of Disney's High School Musical is being held over until June 14 due to popular demand. The play was originally set to conclude May 31. The added shows will take place at 7 p.m. for evenings and 2 p.m. for kend matinees. Tickets for the new performances go on sale Friday at 9 a.m.

City streets are safe: Police Accused's court date

Despite pair of homicides, cops reassure residents of their safety

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE for Metro Halifax

Residents "should feel safe in their city," despite the fact homicides have happened on both sides of Halifax harbour already this week, a police spokesman said yesterday.

We're going to work to ensure that they do (feel safe)," said Const. Brian Palmeter of Halifax Regional Police.

He said investigators are hard at work trying to solve two separate murders, with the body of a 36year-old woman found by a north end Halifax school Monday and a 33-year-old man turning up dead at a Dartmouth rooming house Tuesday night.

Police haven't said how either victim was killed, but Palmeter did say the two deaths aren't related.

As of yesterday, he said investigators still didn't have any suspects in Monday's murder of Tanya Jean Brooks of Halifax, who is



A pair of Halifax Regional Police officers stand behind a house at 214 Portland St. yesterday after police found the body of a 33-year-old man at the house Tuesday night. A 59-year-old man was ar-

"known to police."

Officers have arrested a 59-year-old Dartmouth man in relation to Tuesday's homicide.

That man's name hasn't been released because he hasn't been charged, and the victim's name was also withheld while an autopsy was underway, Palmeter

Police said in relation to Tuesday's murder officers were called to 214 Portland St., at the corner of Maitland Street, just before 9 p.m. to check on someone who was thought to be injured. They instead found the

man's body inside the two-storey, blue-sided house, which area residents call 'a crack house."

"We have responded there for calls ... numer-ous times," Const. Palme-ter confirmed. "They've ranged from things such as noise complaints to alcohol-related offences to disturbances.'

Police don't consider the murder a random act, he said, adding "we don't be-lieve at this time that there's a threat to the sur-

rounding community."

Dave Goyetche of Newcastle Drive said yesterday the homicide that happened next door to his ĥouse "doesn't surprise me.

'They're the ones that fall through the cracks," he said of his neighbours. "They're getting out of prison, or getting out of the Nova Scotia hospital wards, and they've got to live somewhere, and that's the place they go."

WITH FILES FROM GEOFF DAVIES/ FOR METRO HALIFAX

court date rescheduled

CHARGES The municipality saw more violence earlier this week after police found a man suf-fering from several wounds in Sambro on Monday. The victim, who

suffered wounds to his leg, wasn't identified yesterday but Halifax Regional Police Const. Brian Palmeter said both he and the accused are known to police.

Derek Thomas MacPhee, 28, of Harrietsfield was arraigned Tuesday on charges of attempted murder and firearms offences, the Nova Scotia Public Prosecution Service confirmed. His second appearance in Halifax provincial court vesterday was resched-

A 35-year-old man also sustained non-lifethreatening injuries when he was shot in a separate incident in East Preston Monday morn-KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/

raised in the small town of

Spryfield," Melvin says in

the short intro video.

FOR METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

FLU There was one more mild case of influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, reported in the province yesterday, bringing the total for Nova Scotia to 65 since the outbreak began April 26. The new case was identified during a re-test and is related to the original cluster in Windsor. The individual affected has fully recovered. All of the cases of swine flu so far in the province have been METRO HALIFAX

metrenews.ca

What's online today.

Video Afghan soldiers trade in their flimsy pickup trucks for new Humvees, with training from Canadians at metronews.ca/canada Video Thousands of Tamils continue their protest outside the . Ontario legislature at metronews.ca/ canada

Lotto 6/49: 6. 10. 24. 28. 31 & 46. Bonus 25 These results are not official.

Macdonald bridge to get a new 'safety barrier'

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE

TENDER A new "safety barrier" will span the Ångus L. Macdonald Bridge to protect people who are under or on it, including potential jumpers.

Steve Snider, general manager and CEO of the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission, confirmed yesterday a tender should go out next month to extend the steel-barred wall that now runs above Department of National Defence land. He said the barriers on both sides of the bridge would stop people underneath from getting hit by everything from traffic columns to flying television sets.

"Over the years, we've had people throw large objects off," he "Whatever they can lift,

"Over the years, we've had people throw large objects off. Whatever they can lift, goes."

Steve Snider, bridge commission CEO

Snider added the railing will also "provide protection for those who are intent upon hurting themselves.

But he was hesitant to talk about how common suicides and suicide attempts are from the explaining the bridge, World Health Organization recommends media don't pinpoint the places where people might try to take their own lives.

Snider said the original barrier, which is about five feet high and nine feet long, was put in place a couple of years ago because the federal department "had concerns for their employees working down below." But the commission didn't make it longer than that because at the time engineers said the bridge couldn't handle any more weight.

A computer model has since provided a more accurate portrayal of how the bridge is doing, he

"The engineers have come back and told us it doable, so we're pleased."

The walls are expected to cost about \$500,000 total, Snider said, with construction on the pedestrian side set to start this summer and the barrier for the bicycle lane to be built in 2010-2011.

Jimmy Melvin Jr. starts own video website

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

more

wonder INTERNET Ever what Jimmy Melvin Jr.'s life is like? Apparently, wonder no

The member of a well-known Halifax crime family has his own video website reallivestreet

shit.com. There's on- Jimmy ly one video so far Melvin Jr. the website promises more to come.

"Hello everybody, I'm James Melvin Jr. from Halifax, Nova Scotia, born and

"I'm 27 years old, and I've seen it all and been through it all. Melvin ends the video by pounding his chest, then takes a swig of beer.

Melvin Jr. has been shot twice since being released from prison late last year. In April he showed up at the QEII Health Sciences Centre with

a gunshot wound to his upper body, but wouldn't say anything to police about what happened.

2010 won't be bad: Expert

ECONOMY The great recession won't hit Halifax hard in 2009-10, but the municipality's chief administrative officer warns the lingering effects of the struggling economy could impact Nova Scotia's capital

further down the road.

"These are ... very exceptional times," Dan English said yesterday after presenting HRM's annual draft budget to city coun-KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/

FOR METRO HALIFAX



Killaq Envaraq-Strauss, left, Amy Alainga and Olivia Chislett get a sneak preview yesterday of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's new exhibit of aboriginal art, which will be on display in Vancouver

Gallery puts spotlight on Olympic-bound aboriginal artwork

Sunny**Side**

fer them that opportunity

to essentially give people a chance to see it all togeth-

er before it goes off to Van-couver," said Ray Cronin,

the director of the AGNS.

A group of students visit-

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Nunavut got

new exhibit

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laq Envaraq-

yesterday. Twelve-

Strauss

Igaluit

happy

GEOFF DAVIES for Metro Halifax

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is opening up a new exhibit of Olympic-bound aboriginal art.

The exhibit, called Keepers of the Eastern Door, is a collection of 20 works by aboriginal

from "It's a big chance artists across Atlantic Canada, for us to be noticed. a sneak prewhich will A lot of the time. now be shown at the they think we still live in igloos and provincial gallery until it tents."

is shipped off to Vancouver Iqaluit native Killaq at the end of Envaraq-Strauss, 12

The art-work will be on display in Vancouver during the 2010 Winter Olympics, where half of it will be auctioned off to raise funds to promote artistic and cultural work among aboriginal

Two Nova Scotia native cultural groups, the Mi'k-Association for Cultural Studies and Nations in a Circle, teamed up to make the exhibit happen "We were thrilled to of-

NDP plans 'mislead': Premier PAUL MCLEOD paul.mcleod@metronews.ca Premier Rodney MacDon-

ald didn't waste any time saving what he thought of the NDP election platform released this week. "Very clearly in the num-

bers they outlined (Tuesday) they are attempting to mislead Nova Scotians, MacDonald said in his first answer to reporters yester-

day morning. The NDP platform contained 50 promises to-talling \$79 million. But they hope to make up that money through other avenues, and project a bal-anced budget. Yesterday MacDonald said that was inaccurate and didn't make any sense.

"They also said it doesn't cost anything to balance the books of Nova Scotia," he said. "Well, clearly they haven't indicated where they're able to find hundreds of millions of dollars in this year alone to deal with that specific issue."

is currently shortfall of about \$260 million in this and last year's budgets. The Tories wanted to change the law to take offshore money put on the



Premier Rodney MacDonald answers questions from the media at the campaign headquarters of Halifax Clayton Park candidate Debbie Hum yesterday.

debt in 2005, and bring it back into general revenue to cover the deficit. That vote lead to their defeat.

NDP Leader Darrell Dexter said yesterday there was nothing that could be done about the existing debt, but his party would return the province to balanced books

"(MacDonald's) deficit will be recognized in the years in which they were created, which was last year and this year. In our year we will balance the budget," he said.

"The reason we're hearing Mr. MacDonald become increasingly more desperate with his rhetoric, is because he has had three years to address the issues that are important to people... and he's let people down."

Opposition looking to speed info requests

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Freedom of information aboriginal cultures, including her own, will be celebrated in advocates saw good signs yesterday, as quicker, the upcoming Olympics. cheaper access to informa-"It's a big chance for us tion became an election to be noticed. A lot of the campaign issue for oppositime they think we still tion parties.

live in igloos and tents," Liberal Leader Stephen Envaraq-Strauss said. McNeil promised to cut the "It's a great way to show fee for a Freedom of Inforthe world that we're just as mation request from \$25 to \$5, and added his govdeveloped as everyone ernment would review the The exhibition's official time it takes to fill a request. opening will be tonight at 7:30 p.m.

"It's about accountabili-ty," McNeil said. "It's about

"It's about accountability. It's about allowing ordinary Nova Scotians to have access to the information that they should be entitled to." Stephen McNeil

allowing ordinary Nova Scotians to have access to the information that they should be entitled to.'

The Right to Know Coalition has been lobbying for

such moves for years.

"That's a good start," said coalition president
Darce Fardy. "I was very pleased with that. And that they might do something to address waiting times.

which is something that we've also had a problem with. Sometimes people are waiting 18 months."

But Fardy wants to see even more. The government currently charges \$15 per half hour to process applications. That's led to bills of up to \$2,000, he said. Fardy wants that rate cut to a third. He also said the freedom of informa-

tion review officer should report to the legislature.

NDP Leader Darrell Dexter said all of Fardy's recommendations were good ideas, and also vowed to approve access to information. However, he said he'd need to know the cost before cutting rates. He said bureaucrats often refuse and delay requests, but his government would order them to comply.

Progressive Conservative spokeswoman Christina Lamey said they do not currently have any plans to lower freedom of information rates.

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Suggestive Venus unearthed in Germany

A sexually suggestive Venus figurine with oversized breasts and thighs dates back at least 35,000 years and shows ancient humans had sex on their minds, researchers said yesterday. The 60-millimetre-long figurine may be the oldest piece of its kind yet discovered, researchers said. REUTERS

Canada/World

Calgary Not so nice welcome for Rice



Protesters gathered on the corner of Stephen Avenue and Centre Street in Calgary to protest former U.S. secretary of state Condoleezza Rice, who was in the city yesterday after being invited by the University of Calgary to speak at the Hyatt Regency.

Colour a barrier: Study

Darker immigrants face more alienation, survey says

Vanessa Kirunda is the last person you'd expect to be looked down on.

Poised, articulate, educated and confident, Kirunda, a black woman, can dissect and analyze why Canadians treat her differently.

But all bets were off when schoolmates called her 10year-old son Sean a racial epithet. Three times. By children of three different backgrounds.

"I anticipated this would happen, but it breaks my heart. Something is wrong when children say these things. On top of everything, I'm not going to have my child degraded."

Kirunda and her son, Canadian citizens who emigrated from Kenya six years ago, face the sort of walls a

"There is a reluctance to investigate the issue."

Jeffrey Reitz, author

major study of multiculturalism and society pinpoints.

Crunching thousands of numbers from 41,666 people interviewed in nine languages, the just-published study found skin colour — not religion, not income — was the biggest barrier to immigrants feeling they belonged here. And the darker the skin, the bigger the alienation.

"We were surprised that religion didn't have more effect," said lead author Jeffrey Reitz. "It came down to race, with Asian people reporting some and with young black males the most stigmatized. The data is consistent with that.

"We tend to believe racism is a minor problem in Canada, of little consequence. Someone looked at them funny. Or that many immigrants are doing well, so it must be their fault if they aren't. There is a reluctance to investigate the issue," said Reitz.

The University of Toronto professor of ethnic, immigration and pluralism studies added that a lack of trust was also higher among the successful, Canadian-born, Canadian-educated children of visible minority immigrants. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Indian vote comes to end

The ruling Congress-led coalition was slightly ahead of the opposition Hindu-nationalist alliance as voting ended in India's general election but both fell short of a parliamentary majority, TV projections said.

A raft of exit polls yesterday showed either alliance would need new partners, renewing concerns that a shaky coalition would emerge as Asia's emerging powerhouse faces economic slowdown and instability in neighbouring Pakistan.

"We are looking at political uncertainty."

Amulya Ganguli

The projections could spark market jitters in the days ahead of the official results, due on Saturday.

Exit polls have had a mixed record in the past among the electorate of more than 700 million people. They were way off the mark in the last 2004 general election.

Prime Minister Manmo-

han Singh's Congress party-led coalition is ahead with 185-205 seats in the 543-member lower house of parliament, an exit poll by CNN-IBN television said. An alliance led by the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) would take 165 to 185 seats, leaving both the main political formations far short of the 272 needed for a majority.

"We are looking at political uncertainty and horsetrading," said Amulya Ganguli, a New Delhi-based political commentator.

REUTERS

Palin signs deal to write memoirs

POLITICS Sarah Palin, Alaska's governor and last year's Republican U.S. vice-presidential candidate, has signed a deal to write her memoirs with publisher HarperCollins, the Anchorage Daily News reported Tuesday. Palin did not disclose how much she would be paid by the publisher, which is owned by Fox's and Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.

"There have been so many things written and said through mainstream media that have not been accurate, and it will be nice through an unfiltered forum to get to speak truthfully about who we are and what we stand for and what Alaska is all about," Palin said in an interview published on the newspaper's website.

Pakistan Influx of refugees



Internally displaced children try to get food at a distribution centre in Pakistan's Swat district, where troops launched an offensive against militants yesterday. An estimated 800,000 civilians had fled from the latest fighting.

REUTERS

Shelling kills aid worker in Sri Lanka

SRI LANKA Shelling killed a Red Cross worker inside Sri Lanka's war zone yesterday, the aid agency said, while troops and the Tamil Tigers battled in an intensifying fight to the finish of Asia's longest modern war.

The pro-rebel website and a government-employed doctor in the war zone whose security is at the whim of the Tigers, said at least 38 people were killed in an attack on a makeshift medical clinic. The military called the report fabricated.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), for days unable to ferry out wounded and deliver aid by boat because of fighting, said a 31-year-old local staff member and his mother were killed by a shell.

Indian connection

Sri Lanka's war has become a delicate election issue for India's ruling Congress party in the swing state of Tamil Nadu, home to 60 million Tamils across the Palk Strait where the LTTE was incubated and still commands support.

REUTERS

s in brief Unwed moms on rise: Study

POLITICS The Conservative Party launched a series of ads attacking the opposition Liberals yesterday in a bid to recover lost ground in public support ahead of a possible election. The Liberals have threatened to try to topple the minority government by mid-year.

FLU Canadian pigs and pork are unlikely to spread influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, and are safe to import, Britain's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said yesterday in a state-

FAMILIES More Canadian some cases. In Nowmen are giving birth out of wedlock than ever being 2007, up from fore, with three out of 10 cent in 1980. The

women are giving birth out of wedlock than ever before, with three out of 10 babies being born to unmarried moms, according to a new study. Thirty per cent of births

in Canada in 2007 were to unwed women, up from 12 per cent in 1980, according to the Centers For Disease Control And Prevention in the United States.

The upward trend was consistent in most developed countries, with levels doubling and tripling in some cases. In Norway the rate climbed to 54 per cent in 2007, up from 15 per cent in 1980. The rate in the Netherlands rose to 40 per cent from four per cent.

Elizabeth Saewyc, a nursing professor at the University of B.C., said the changing rates can be attributed to a shift in social values toward co-habitation.

"It's becoming more OK (for unmarried couples) to live together, so raising children together is more socially sanctioned," Saewyc said.

News in brief

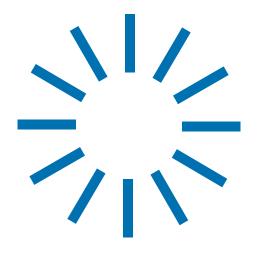
RACISM Militants and hate groups are increasingly using social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace and YouTube as propaganda tools to recruit new members, according to a report released

yesterday by the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

EUROVISION Georgia stages its own music festival this weekend in a snub to the Eurovision Song Contest in Moscow after the country's entry was rejected for mocking Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. Georgia pulled out after organizers said it should revise "We Don't Wanna Put In," a disguised swipe at Putin.

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6

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Comment & Views

Dysfunction dying out



s we continue our efforts this week to find the good in these tightmoney times, it only makes sense to contemplate the unbuyables health, happiness and of course love.
On the relationship front,

I could offer tips on romantic outings to the local Service Canada office to file for Employment Insurance together, or getting reacquainted with your parents as you move back into their basement, but the secret to the SunnySide Method™ is perspective.

If your job or savings

On the web

 For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

don't bear unpanicked scrutiny these days, you might find it reassuring to take stock of your personal life. Then again, maybe this is the last thing you want to think about. There is, after all, when considering one's relationships, a tendency to dwell on the problems and the irritants, no matter how minor. Relationship columnists, always in search of a conflict on which to hang the story, are doubly guilty of this.

Chances are though, if you really think about it, things are more right than wrong. For every one of your love's grating eccentricities, there are probably three everyday kindnesses you forgot that you take for granted. If not, what are

Sunny**Side**

you twits still doing togeth-

And some of us are better at this than others, but it might even be appropriate while taking stock, to spare a thankful thought for your exes. No matter how badly it ended, you've still got the memories, whether bittersweet or giddily pornographic, and everything you learned from each other — even if in the end it had to be learned the hard way. Your important relation-

ships aren't limited to the romantic, either. Your friends and family, the softball team or the co-workers (if you still have co-workers, of course) all populate that vital non-economic part of

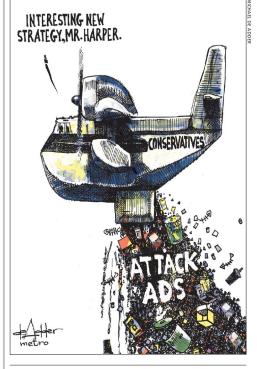
For every small way these people drive you crazy, they make up for it by lending a hand, sharing a laugh, making you see things different-

If brute optimism isn't enough to get you through, the occasional piece of statistical evidence pops up to suggest we're getting better at getting along.

For example, in new research from the University of Lethbridge, Canadian teenagers are reporting better relationships with their parents today than any teens in the last 30 years. Arguments are down, and mutual enjoyment and understanding up, according to the national survey.

Less dysfunction at home should mean less mess later, as it's striking how much the dynamics of future relationships resemble those first ones within your family, so this is an encouraging trend.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



Letters

Sunnv**Side**

Leave your lunch at home and hit a café to help economy

Re: SunnySide initiative

I propose that on Friday, May 29, every daytime worker do not bring a lunch if they can possibly buy it for that day. That includes coffee or tea. The exceptions, of course, would be if it's financially impossible or there's no cafés or restaurants near them.

This would give all local cafés and restaurants across Canada immense business for at least one day. May 29 should generate enough business to get some money circulating from British Columbia to Newfoundland. If it works, perhaps the following month do it again on June BARRY WOOD.

Sunny**Side**

Organic vegetables can help to reduce system spending

Re: SunnySide initiative Here are some ideas:

Instead of people opting to work out in a gym, lots of calories can be burned in their backyards by growing organic vegetables. Excess vegetables could be supplied to shelters or home-care centres, thus minimizing government

funding. Those government funds can be utilized for creating jobs in less-developed ar-

It's time to rethink the millions of dollars that goes for some ridiculous research project, such as and women's grooming habits.

> PRADEEP KRISHNA RAO. MISSISSAUGA, ONT.

Views

Sheeple sheds light on MP's time with PM



"Garth who"

So, the official response to my latest book by the Prime Minister's Office summed things up nicely. I couldn't have put it better myself.

After all, these were the guys who'd obsessed about what to do with me, how to stop my blogging, from talking to reporters, from webcasting in the foyer of the House of Commons and from scrutinizing my own party's policies, for the entire time I was a

Stephen Harper MP. It was just days after I was elected again in 2006 that Harper's right-hand man, chief of staff Ian Brodie, ordered me to go offline — or be punted from my own party. Ten months later, he and his boss did just that. And when they did, for the high crime of opening my mouth and having an opinion, they alleged instead

I'd broken caucus confiden-tiality in writing about party secrets.
This is what

makes the reaction to my book,

"Sheeple," ironically tasty. In Harper's caucus, there are secrets. There's nothing to keep

confidential. MPs aren't allowed to speak without permission. They know the consequences of questioning the leader or his dictates. Debate does not exist. During my time in that room there was no

discussion

Afghanistan, same-sex marriage, gun control or the environment.

This is because in Harper's Canada, MPs don't matter. Our prime minis-

believes that Conservatives elected go Ottawa to work for him, and the party. They're employees, to be cajoled, herded, muscled, or in the case of me and Maritime MP Bill Casey, fired for insubordina-

tion. My deep mistake was to believe members of Parliament work for the people who send them there. And that is what I told the guy. The people are the ones an MP must answer to, report to and stand before. The job of the elected is to represent the voters to Ottawa, not come home and tell the citizens what to believe.

In the end, I had to go. The PM was sick of my blog and my lip, and made a fine example of me by tossing me out of his caucus, then out of the party I had belonged to longer than he.

And although I had served two previous Conservative prime ministers, sat at the cabinet table and even been a leadership contender, Stephen Harper dropped the political nuke as a signal to the sheeple in his flock that anyone who displeased him would be dooced.

And then dismissed like the voters.

Garth Turner served as an MP twice, last elected in 2006 as a Conservative before being ejected from his party. He is a best-selling author of personal fi-nance books. His latest book, 'Sheeple' is about his political journey.

Metro Online Poll Results

Would Canadian elections benefit from switching to STV?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.co



Tell us your views by email to halifaxletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrohalifax

Craigslist to drop "erotic services" ads: Official

Craigslist will replace its "erotic services" ads with a new adult category "to bar flagrant prostitution and porn," the Connecticut attorney general's office said yesterday. REUTERS

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Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Gadgets hurt efficiency gains, says new report

Energy use could triple by 2030, IEA warns

Demand for energy-thirsty gadgets such as cellphones, iPods, PCs and plasma TVs is undoing efficiency gains elsewhere, the International Energy Agency said yesterday.

The Paris-based energy adviser to 28 developed countries urged governments in a report to keep pace with the invention of new consumer devices when crafting efficiency standards, and implored people to make thriftier choices.

The IEA warned that otherwise energy used by household electronic devices could triple by 2030.

Energy consumption is associated with carbon

Consumption

 Residential electricity consumption has been growing in all regions of the world at an average of 3.4 per cent a year since 1990, the International Energy Agency report said.

emissions because most electricity is generated from burning high-carbon fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas.

But the world doesn't have to curb an insatiable appetite for ever more clever, exciting or fashionable gadgets, provided people choose the most efficient versions available, said IEA analyst Paul Waide.

He said that governments have generally been reluctant to introduce policies for these types of products because they've been changing so much.

Technologies were already available to improve efficiency by at least 40 per cent across most appliances, the report found, but uptake depends on choices by fickle consumers.

"The extent of savings is large; however, the energy and financial savings on individual residential appliances often appear insignificant to consumers," the report said.

In **brief**

EARNINGS Quebecor Inc. posted a lower quarterly profit yesterday because of a large one-time gain a year earlier, but said its strong cable business is helping it weather the recession.

The **DAILY**BUSINESS BUZZ

Redesign honoured:

The 2009 Summit Creative Awards competition has honoured Spectacle Group of Halifax with the Silver Award for its brand redesign of Taste of Nova Scotia.

Health, safety excellence: A Bedford waste-management and environmental-services operation has received a prestigious award for health and safety excellence from its Calgary-based parent company, Newalta Corp. Coast Beverages plant: Fuzzy Duck, which is be-

Fuzzy Duck, which is behind Atlantic Canada's only homegrown premium vodka beverage, has established the new Coast Beverages Inc. production facility in Antigonish.

Get the full stories delivered to your inbox every morning.
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nsbi.ca

Japan Hunting for a husband



A model displays lingerie-maker Triumph International's new "Konkatsu Bra," literally meaning "marriage-hunting" bra, during an unveiling in Tokyo yesterday. The bra features a count-down clock showing the marriage deadline set by the wearer, and when an engagement ring is inserted between the cups, the melody of the Wedding March is played.

Pension issue threatens GM

AUTO Pension issues are stymieing efforts to reach a new concession deal between the Canadian Auto Workers union and General Motors Corp. that is needed to keep the automaker's Canadian operations from liquidation, the head of the union said yesterday.

The two sides have until Friday to strike a new costcutting deal or the automaker could miss out on billions of dollars in government loans needed to keep GM Canada afloat.

The biggest hurdle involves the cost of pensions for GM's retired workers, CAW president Ken Lewenza said.

GM Canada has about five retirees for every active worker. Complicating matters is a pension fund shortfall at the company estimated to be as high as \$7 billion.









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Jason Taylor is heading home and will return to the Miami Dolphins for the 2009 season. The South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported that Taylor has agreed to a one-year deal worth \$1.5 million to play for the Dolphins after spending one season with the Washington Redskins. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Desjardins to head juniors

Willie Desjardins, left, coach of the WHL's Medicine Hat Tigers has been named head coach of the Canadian junior men's hockey team unior championship. The 52-year-old from Climax, Sask., was an assistant coach on Pat Quinn's coaching staff when Canada won its fifth consecutive gold medal this January.

Crosby bests Ovechkin

Pittsburgh eliminates Washington with wild Game 7 win

Stanley Cup 2009 Playoffs

NHL RESULTS

Penguins 6 Capitals 2



Sidney Crosby rose to the occasion in his first career playoff Game 7, recording two goals and one assist as the Pittsburgh Penguins punched their ticket to the Eastern Conference finals with a convincing 6-2 decision over the Washington Capitals at Verizon Center.

Crosby finished the se ries with eight goals and 13 points, and currently leads all players remaining with 12 total playoff goals.

Craig Adams, Bill Guerin, Kris Letang and Jordan Staal also lit the lamp for the Penguins, who took the semifinal series four games to three and will be among the final four teams to compete for the Stanley Cup for the second time in as many seasons.

The club will rest until



Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby, centre, celebrates his first-period goal with Kris Letang, left, and Bill Guerin last night. The Penguins won 6-2 and eliminated Washington.

opening the Eastern Conference finals this weekend against either the Bruins or Hurricanes, whose own Game 7 takes place tonight in Boston.

Marc-Andre Fleury was rarely tested for his eighth win of this postseason, needing to make just 19

Ovechkin and Brooks Laich scored for the

Capitals, who have dropped two of their last series-deciding three games on home ice and were denied the franchise's third trip to the conference

The setback continued Washington's franchiselong playoff hex against Pittsburgh, as the Caps have lost seven of eight playoff series against the

Pens and have also failed to claim victory in three Game 7s.

Rookie netminder Simeon Varlamov had his worst game as a professional in defeat, victimized for four goals on 18 shots in just over 22 minutes of play. Jose Theodore completed the contest by allowing a pair of scores on 12 shots.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Neither Toronto Raptors

centre Chris Bosh nor Victo-

ria's Steve Nash, a point

guard with the Phoenix

Suns, received enough votes

to be named to the squads.

Bosh received 56 points

while Nash had seven.

Jays lose as Yankees romp

Before last night's game against the Yankees, Jays manager Cito Gaston praised rookie pitcher Scott Richmond for consistently giving his team a chance to win.

But that chance all but evaporated in the second inning when the Yankees tagged Richmond for five runs and rolled to an 8-2 win over the AL's hottest

The loss dropped the Jays' record to 23-13, which still led the AL East, but not by much over the Boston Red Sox, who were in California last night playing the Los

Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Although Richmond only claimed the final spot in the Jays' starting rotation in the final week of spring training. Gaston said his early season success wasn't sur-

Richmond, who was voted the AL's rookie of the month for April, entered last night with a 4-1 record and 3.29 ERA. In just over 38 innings, he had recorded 29 strikeouts, tied with Brian Tallet for second on the team behind Roy Halladay.

"He kept us in ball games. He throws strikes," Gaston said before the game. "If you can throw strikes up here (in the major leagues),

MLB RESULTS

Toronto 2 New York 8



you can win."

He opened the game throwing still more strikes, both by design and with help from free-swinging Yankees hitters. Richmond earned his 30th strikeout of the season when leadoff hitter Johnny Damon swung at a slider in the dirt. Then he got right fielder Nick Swisher swinging at a 91-m.p.h. fastball

The Jays' offence, leading the majors with 209 runs through Tuesday, contributed one more in the first inning.
A pair of walks around a

fielder's choice put runners on first and second. Aaron Hill reached third on Vernon Wells' fielder's choice, then scored when Yankees first baseman Mark Texiera couldn't scoop Robinson Cano's low throw from the

But then came the second, when the Yankees squeezed an entire game's worth of extra-base hits into a single inning.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sports in brief

TENNIS Spanish superstar Rafael Nadal, last week's Belgrade titlist Novak Djokovic and top American Andy Roddick were among yesterday's secondround winners at the \$5 million Madrid Open, an ATP World Tour Masters event and French Open tune-up.

FORMULA ONE Former champi-

ons Renault followed Ferrari's lead yesterday and threatened to quit Formula One at the end of the season unless the governing body rewrites the 2010 rules. "If the decisions announced by the (FIA) World Council on the 29th of April 2009 are not revised, we have no choice but to withdraw from the FIA Formula One world championship at the end of 2009," team boss Flavio Briatore said in a statement. **OLYMPICS** Olympic athletes blogging during the 2010 Games won't be allowed to use the iconic Olympic rings on their web pages, But otherwise, the International Olympic Committee has left the rules around blogging mostly unchanged.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

LeBron a unanimous all-star

BASKETBALL Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James and Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant head-line the All-NBA First Team, the league an-

nounced Wednesday.

James, the NBA's MVP
for the 2008-09 season, was a unanimous choice in voting by a panel of 122 sportswriters and broadcasters throughout the United States and Canada. He earned First-Team honors for the second straight season after leading the Cavs to an NBA-best record of 66-16.

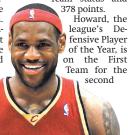
Bryant was selected to the First Team by 119 voters. The 2007-08 MVP notched his fourth straight First-Team selection. Also earn-

ing First-Team hon-

were

ours

Orlando centre Dwight Howard, Miami guard Dwyane Wade and Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki, who edged San Antonio's Tim Duncan in the voting. Nowitzki received 35 votes for the First Team and total of 383 points in the 5-3-1 system, while Duncan garnered 39 votes for First-Team status and



straight year. Wade, the league's leading scorer at 30.2 points per game, earned his first selection to the First Team, while Nowitzki is a First Team member for the fourth time.

Duncan and Boston's Paul Pierce are the forwards on the Second Team, which also features Houston center Yao Ming and guards Chris Paul of New Orleans and Brandon Roy of Portland.

Of the 15 players chosen for the three teams, 11 come from the Western Conference.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ontario open to helping Balsillie with arena renos

ment is doing the old spinarama when it comes to financial help for BlackBerry billionaire Jim Balsillie's bid to bring the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes to Hamilton

In a change of direction from last week, Premier

Dalton McGuinty yesterday "We'll just have pointedly did not rule out to wait and see if American Queen's Park we get a sensible Games bid. contributing some of the proposal." million Premier \$120

Balsillie is ap- Dalton McGuinty parently seeking for improvements to for an N

Copps Coliseum. 'I'm very much in favour of a new hockey team in Ontario," the premier told

reporters, insisting while he knew "nothing about" any request for public money for the venture, his door was open.

'We'll just have to wait and see if we get a sensible

proposal. The last I've heard (is) that the NHL board of governors had dug in (and opposed the Coyotes being moved)."

McGuinty, who counts Balsillie as a friend and a supporter, suggested renovations to Copps could be part of the government's

investments in Hamilton for the 2015 Pan

That's a shift from a week ago when he ruled out any public funding

for an NHL team. talking 'We're not about coming to the table with taxpayer dollars here; what we are talking about is a private sector venture, somebody with the resources to bring a franchise to southern Ontario," the premier said May 6.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Dalhousie Tigers have hired Anna Stammberger (nee Pendergast) as head coach of their women's basketball team.

Stammberger, an all-Canadian at Dal in the early 1980s, replaces 32-year veteran Carolyn Savoy, who retired in April. METRO HALIFAX

Added games unlikely

Rainmen owner pushes for expanded schedule, but league demurs

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Rainmen may have to get creative if they want to play more games at the Metro Cen-

tre next year.

Owner Andre Levingston was in Chicago yesterday for the Premier Basketball League's annual meetings and lobbied for an extension of the existing 20-game schedule. He wasn't flat-out rejected but it doesn't look likely.

"My question was, 'Is it fair to say next year will be a 20-game season?' And the answer was, 'At this point, yes, next year will be 20 games,'" Levingston said. 'I was hoping for an increase of at least two (home) games. I would definitely like to see 12 home games at the Metro Centre next season."

Levingston said the PBL is handling growth cautiously and that not all teams are ready for more home games.



Former Halifax Rainmen forward Rob Sanders drives to the hoop against a trio of defenders from the now defunct Montreal Sasquat'ch at the Metro Centre.

If the PBL's decision stands, he said he wants to add two exhibition contests to his regular-season schedule. He would like to bring in the Chinese national team and the two-time defending PBL champion Rochester RazorSharks.

"We definitely need a few more games at the Metro Centre," he said. "I was hoping to hear (something different) but now we'll have to make that happen on our own."

Levingston said the Montreal Sasquat'ch and Augusta Groove will not be back in 2010. Montreal's departure leaves the Atlantic Conference with four teams: The Rainmen, Vermont Frost Heaves, Manchester Millrats and Quebec Kebs.

Although the PBL could add more teams in the coming weeks, Levingston said none are Canadian and none would be an ideal geographical fit for the Atlantic Conference.

He said the overall tone of the meetings was positive.

"All in all, next season will be very, very exciting," he said.

Bluenose League making strides?

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

A Nova Scotia-based group hoping to create the NHL's version of baseball's Grapefruit League in the Maritimes is holding a press conference tomorrow in Halifax.

Sources tell Metro Halifax the group — dubbed the Bluenose League — has reached a three-year deal to bring the Florida Panthers to Port Hawkesbury for part of training camp in early September and to the Metro Centre on Sept. 15 for a pre-season game against the Ottawa Senators.

Although the idea of a Bluenose League has been bandied about for several years, this announcement would be the first concrete step toward establishing the circuit.

It is believed other NHL teams have expressed an interest in multi-year agreements to come to Maritime cities.

The Bluenose League, which has support of Trade Centre Ltd., is spearheaded by president Ralston Mac-Donnell.

Teams have migrated to the Maritimes for camps in recent years, including the Boston Bruins to Halifax, New York Islanders to Yarmouth, Pittsburgh Penguins to Moncton and Columbus Blue Jackets to Summerside, P.E.I.

The Bruins spent nearly a week in Halifax last September and wrapped things up with exhibition games against the Montreal Canadiens and Detroit Red Wings.

Sports in brief

CFL The Winnipeg Blue Bombers have signed former Acadia Axeman Ivan Birungi, who holds the Atlantic University Sport record for touchdown catches with 29. METRO HALIFAX





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A chalk board in your own house st-Oleum has released new spray-on chalkboard paint, great for a child's room or the door of the pantry

Rust-Oleum has released new spray-on chalkboard paint, great for a child's room or the door of the pantry, where you can write To-Do and grocery lists. Visit rustoleum.ca for more information. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Homes



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Ever try to stain a wooden piece of furniture and end up staining your hands, arms, legs and the floor? Verathane has the answer for you with it's new line of foam stains.

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METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA



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Green materials remain popular amid recession

Canadians recognize the longterm, cost-saving value of building a home with sustainable materials. Recession or no recession, survey findings show that in the next five years, the "green" building market in North America is expected to double with up to 20 per cent insisting on the use of sustainable materials.

"A green home uses less energy and natural re-sources," says Todd Blyth at Nudura, a Canadian company known for its concrete building system to replace wood. "An environmentally responsible structure creates less waste and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. Other equally important benefits include lower energy and water bills, reduced exposure to mould, mildew and other indoor toxins that are often associated with traditional building methods. As a result, the net cost of owning a sustainable home is comparable to cost of a conventional

When talking to your

builder, ask for materials and systems that meet established green criteria and work in conjunction with each other.

"Concrete is a good place to begin," says Blyth, referring to the award-winning, Nudura building system. This greener process builds walls to the roof with a method that entails interlocking forms with two layers of polystyrene, steel reinforced, and filled with concrete.

"The resulting walls deliver far superior performance than the traditional wood frame method. A home constructed this way will improve your lifestyle — and if combined with our ceiling and floor insulation, you will see even greater benefits to the environment and to the overall re-sale value of the house."

The forms can be ordered in a variety of sizes and shapes so that your walls and ceilings can be built to any design. Concrete walls eliminate the risk of mould growth too.

NEWS CANADA

Open up the cottage, but bring a tool belt



pening up the cottage is a North American ritual and it so happens that the usual time for this is just about any day now.

when cottagers And make their way to their cottages for the first time this year, what will they find? Perhaps a dock that has been damaged by ice, or even swept down the bay, a railing that has been damaged by a fallen tree or a roof damaged by branches brought down by snow. Inside, you may find mouse nests in the cottage linens, mouse droppings in the cupboard, and gnawed through flour containers in the kitchen.

Ah, such are the delights of cottage life. You never know what you'll find on that first trip of the season.

One thing is clear. And that's that people who do a thorough job of preparing for the winter in the fall are a lot less likely to suffer from a nasty surprise, come the cottage-opening season. For example, I once left a rusty old barbecue in the far corner of the porch of my parents' cottage over the winter. It hadn't been used in years and my plan was to take it to the dump in the spring.

I learned there and then that I should have dealt with it in a more timely fashion. When it was time to open the cottage, we discovered we had had a visit(s) from what we judged by the footprints to be a sizable bear. It looked as if it had tipped that old barbecue over, and then proceeded to shove it around the deck with considerable enthusiasm, leaving an indelible mess of soot, coals and ancient grease.

During the fall closing, you've got to be thinking about battening down the hatches, and stowing away stuff securely. Lock up the cottage tightly and put away anything that can be damaged by animals, wind and weather.

And for those people who have not been as conscientious as they should have been about draining pipes, tanks and pumps, I feel bad for you. Cottage opening will likely be a miserable affair, spent soldering burst



Opening up the cottage can be joyous time, but the problems that you may have to deal with can be very time consuming.

Hints and tips

• In the spring, check all pipes and connections before you prime the water pump.

 Visually check exterior wiring to the cottage to spot any fraying or damaged lines before you power up the cottage.

 Wait for the hot water heater to fill up with water before you flip the switch to start it up for the season, or you could burn the heating elements

 Cut back dead or damaged branches. Also check wood siding for any sign of rot, and pay special attention to caulking around windows. Look onto the roof for missing shingles or fixtures.

 On the interior, inspect for any water damage on ceilings or walls. This can help you spot leaking problems that may not be visible on the outside.

 Clean cupboards and be on the lookout for mouse droppings. If you find them, clean with antiseptic solution and remember to wear mask.

 Inspect decks and railings and secure any loose planks or handrails.

-SYLVIA PUT

pipes in the back-bending and spider-webby crawl space. Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show. Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.







Visit metronews.ca to watch metratube of the day

Washing tips

Grit and sand can wedge itself in the tightly compacted tips, so wash well, lightly scrubbing the tips. Break off asparagus stems where they snap easily, composting the ends. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Look for firm, straight spears with deep green or purple tips that are compact and tightly closed. The stem ends should be moist and green, not grey, cracked or dry. BARB HOLLAND/FOR METRO CANA



Same size

Skinny, medium or large, the size isn't the issue, but try to pick similar size spears for even cooking Medium to large are better for the grill.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVICAMETRONEWS.CA



Three cheers for these beers

h, the first fairweather lona weekend of the vear is on the horizon and the drinking is easy. Whether it's Molson, Labatt, Keith's, or any one of the dozens of excellent micro-brews (with a hometown shout out to Nova Scotia's Garrison and Propeller breweries) made across our vast piece of geography, nothing goes better with a Canadian three-day than a few too many cold ones.

I'll be in the land of Queen Victoria and the neighbourhood locals for most of the celebration: Spending some time tasting my way around the London International Wine Fair. That doesn't mean I won't indulge in a brew or two during my travels.

I've had the chance to tour London's own Fuller's Brewery in Chiswick more than once and their ESB (500 ml,

\$2.50 - \$3.99) stands for Extra Special Bitter · is a classic, full-bodied malt-fest with plenty of lively hopes and, you guessed it, bitterness. Combine a pint with your favourite barbecued grub this weekend.

If European lagers from the mainland are more your style, try the Czech Republic's Czechvar (500 ml, \$2.55 -\$3.05) with goulash, roast pork or just about anything. Its golden colour and rich, concentrated flavour oozes drinkablity.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.



Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words

First spears of summer



The first long weekend of the 'summer' generally heralds a number of openings — the cottage, Farmers' Markets, firing up the grill and the sightings of the first vegetable of season, asparagus.

In a survey conducted in February 2009 for Weber-Stephen Products Company to determine consumer trends, 68 per cent of Canadians said they prefer grilling in the summer while 32 per cent report grilling year-round.

Asparagus and Prosciutto with Lemon Vinaigrette

Asparagus season is short, usually just four to six weeks, depending on weather and locale, so grill some up soon. This recipe, from a terrific cookbook Weber's Way to Grill, the Step-by-Step Guide to Expert Grilling by Jamie Purviance, would be good with grilled chicken, salmon or pork. Makes 4

- 2 tbsp (30 ml) apple cider vinegar • 1 tbsp (15
- ml) finely diced shallot • 2 tsp (10 ml) finely
- grated lemon • 1 tsp (5 ml) Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each: kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 11/2 lbs (750 g) asparagus (about 1-1/2 bunches)
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) kosher salt • 4 thin slices prosciutto
- METHOD:

Preheat barbecue to medium heat.

In small bowl, whisk vinegar, shallot, lemon zest, and mustard. Slowly whisk in oil. Season with salt and pepper.

Wash asparagus well, snap off ends. Drizzle asparagus with a few tablespoons of the vinaigrette and season evenly with salt.

Grill asparagus and the prosciutto over direct medium heat, with the lid closed as much as possible, until the asparagus is tender and the prosciutto is This recipe comes from Weber's Way to Grill.

minutes for the prosciutto.

Arrange asparagus on a

platter, spoon on remain-

ing vinaigrette, and crum-

ble the crispy prosciutto

Products Co. Recipe from Weber's Way to Grill™ by

Jamie Purviance. Used

with permission.

©2008 Weber-Stephen

crisp, turning once or water in a container and twice, 6 to 8 minutes for cover with plastic. the asparagus and 1 to 2

• Roasting and grilling concentrate the flavour of most foods, particularly vegetables that are often cooked in water, such as asparagus. Toss in a little oil, season to taste and grill until tender-crisp but bright green. For doneness, go by looks and texture rather than time.

• Good for you — asparagus is high in folate, a source of vitamin C and A, iron, phosphorus, potassium, thiamine and riboflavin. Low in calories, each spear has about 8 calories

Barb Holland is a professional home

chicken.

REALTORS

on top.

• The fresher the better, asparagus is best cooked the day you buy it. To store any longer, cut 1 inch (2.5 cm) or so off the ends and wrap the ends in wet paper towel and store in plastic bag; or store like flowers, upright in 1 inch (2.5 cm) of

economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

CONCRETE & SUPPLIES

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Fries and Co. 2603 Connolly St 455-5250 Hamburger with fries, \$4.15 (taxes in)

Located on the corner of Chebucto and Connolly for 33 years, this famous Halifax eatery gives you good prices and leave ou with a full belly. Fries and Co. is most famous for its fish and chips, which you can get a family pack of for eight pieces and fami ly size fries for \$28.20, taxes in. You can also get a seafood platter or \$14.55, taxes in.

In **brief**

SCOOP THIS The Barenaked Ladies launched the new Ben & Jerry's ice cream named after them this week, If I Had 1,000,000 Flavours. Its marketed as a "collision of chocolate and vanilla ice creams," with chocolate-covered toffee,



chocolate covered almonds white chocolate chunks and peanut butter cups. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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– Frank Zappa

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for men and women, the new golf net system features two lines of golf shoes. For more visit geox.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The new faces of L'Oréal

Announced yesterday, two well-known beauties — Evangeline Lilly (far left), and Freida Pinto — join L'Oréal Paris as new world spokespeople for the brand. Pinto is best known for her starring role in the Oscar-winning film Slumdog Millionaire, while Lilly caught viewers' attention in the popular TV drama Lost in which she won a 2007 Golden Globe Award nomination for best actress. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Fashion journalist Jeanne Beker, second from left, returns to her post as Canada's Next Top Model judge along with (left to right): Mike Ruiz, Jay Manuel, Yasmin Warsame and Nolé Marin.



Media maven

Jeanne Beker is the ultimate fashion multi-tasker

BRIAN COULTON for Metro Canada

There was a time Jeanne Beker recalls when specialization intimated . success.

"They used to say 'Jack of all trades, master of none!" an energetic Beker says with a mocking nasal voice in her downtown Toronto office. "I think it's a very old fashioned notion now. It would be a pretty boring life for me if I was only involved in one medi-

um."
Boring, for the Canadian fashion icon, would make most beat. Beker is the long-time face of Fashion Television, editor-in-chief of FQ and Sir magazines, author of three books, fashion columnist for The Globe and Mail and a judge on CTV reality show Canada's Next Top Model, its third season set to premiere on May 26.

The array of multimedia hats Beker wears today (which surely match those in her closet) stems from her fundamental passion for communication. Before media, Beker was an actress, once studying mime in Paris under Marcel Marceau's teacher Étienne Decroux. It wasn't until 1975, when she moved to St. John's, Nfld., that she

"Fashion keeps you from ever growing old in some ways, because it's constantly changing.

Jeanne Beker, Canada's Next Top Model judge

found her voice.

"I was the only mime artist in the province and I got a job in radio," she says with irony. "That's just the proof that I was really all about communication, first and foremost."

St. John's became Toronto, radio turned into television and Beker found herself on the big city small screen, hosting The New Music with CNN-bound JD Roberts. But after meeting all of her youthful rock idols ("I thought, if I interview Rod Stewart once more, I'll lose it!" she quips), Beker, then in her early 30s, says she desired doing something more "age appropriate." "Fashion's the kind of

thing you can grow old in ... Actually, fashion keeps you from ever growing old in some ways, because it's constantly changing. It looked like the next big

thing, and we were right."
That prediction has held strong for 24 years, since Fashion Television was created (a run Beker says she'd never have believed if told back then). Today, she continues to be seen running about the streets of the world's fashion capitals with her cameraman and a microphone in hand, reporting from runway shows and interviewing befriended designers from Gaultier to Valentino. But despite her years in the business, Beker says she'll never tire of fashion.

"The only constant in fashion is change. The personalities — the egos, the icons and the drama in fashion. fashion — it's all so irresistible. To me, it's the most colourful arena I can imag-

But, it's also one Beker doesn't know how to progress further in. "I think about it every night!" she says, slapping her desk. She says she only hopes to continue to present popular culture's cutting edge, in a motley manner.

"It's about really reaching out and communicating to people and looking at situations in a multitude of different ways. That's what makes things so compelling — when there are all these different textures to play with."

DIY distressed jeans give that aged look. KENYA HUNT Metro World News



Place a wood cutting board inside each pant leg. Pick strategic areas on the denim that you want to look worn. Scrape designated areas with a cheese grater until you achieve the desired look.

Using a large, utility knife, cut areas of jean that you'd like to look ripped (don't use scissors, which will make the rips look too precise.) Grab a rough pumice stone or sandpaper and rub the fabric around the cut in order to soften the edges and

Wearing rubber gloves, dip a sponge into a bucket of bleach and water. Next, lightly sponge areas you want to look discoloured. Afterwards, toss in washing machine and voilá you've got a pair of distressed jeans.



A look from the Balmain spring summer '09 collection Former supermodel Paulina Porizkova revealed this week that she has been booted from her judge's post on America's Next Top Model. "Listen, do you know why I am in Los Angeles? Because I am looking for a job," Porizkova informed Craig Ferguson on his talk show. EONLINE.COM

First time

Prince Harry will be making his first formal visit to the United States later this month to participate in the second annual Veuve Clicquot Manhattan Polo Classic on New York's historic Governors Island, PEOPLE.COM

Entertainment

Green Day takes swipe at U.S.

Green Day

Album: 21st Century Breakdown Label: Warner Rating: @@@½

IT'S BEEN FIVE

vears since Day Green completed its transfor mation



from poseur punks to thought-provoking social activists, so no one should be surprised that the group's new album takes another swipe at America's decaying culture. What is astonishing is that the California trio is even more upset and angry about the state of their country, even though a new U.S. president is in power. In this three-act rock opera, the band rails against religion, and alienation among other things. Musically, this is as tight as they've ever been, though some of the more classic rock sounding tracks aren't as strong as the punk-influenced times.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

The Crystal **Method**

Album: Divided By Night Label: Tiny e Records Rating: ###

CRYSTAL

Method exploded on dance scene in the





Green Day rails against religion and alienation on its new album, 21st Century Breakdown, which is out Friday.

stay relevant. They've tried to do just that by enlisting a bevy of popular indie artists, including Metric's Emily Haines, to sing over their slick electro sounds. While it works to some degree — Matisyahu's Drown in the Now might be his best work yet — it's missing the attack and originality that their younger contemporaries have mastered.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Sophie Milman

Album: Take Love Easy Label: Linus Rating: @@@%

TIMES when the world seems awash with "sexy"

"sultry" candle light-and-wine jazz singers whose phrasing is always more important than the actual power of her instrument. So what makes Milman any different? Hard to say, really. But there's a timbre and tone to her alto voice that is just so ... likeable. Here, she follows up her Junowinning Make Someone

Music**Reviews**

by stalwarts like Cole Porter, Johnny Mercer and Duke Ellington with some intriguing arrangements of more contemporary tunes. The formula works wonderfully on Paul Simon's 50 Ways To Leave Your Lover and Joni Mitchell's Be Cool, both of which were written during their masters' "jazz periods." It fails, however, on Bruce Springsteen's I'm On Fire and offers surprising results on Bonnie Raitt's I Can't Make you Love Me.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada



31 31 31 ABC No Instant Star TMZ (N) Old Christine Old Chris America's Next Top Mode 7 7 7 ASN | The Road to Avonilea | 1 11 11 Cape | Coronation St. | Jeopardy! (N) | 2 2 2 CBCF | Urgences (SC) | 2 3 32 CBS | Wews (N) | Evening News | 69 69 CFIM | TVA 18 heures | Le Cercle (SC) | 6 6 6 CIHF | Entertainment | ET Canada Des squelettes Gars fille Perdus "Jughead" (SC Le Téléjournal The Insider (N) Entertainment Survivor: Tocantins (N CSI: NY Survivor: Tocantins (N The Office (N) Kink in Hair Grey's Anatomy "Here's to Future Podium TV EastLink Television Two/Half Men Two/Half Men Hell's Kitchen (N) Fox First The Office (N) 30 Roc CBC News: The National 4 4 PBS-B NewsHour With Jim Lehrer 35 35 35 PBS-D NewsHour With Jim Lehrer Heart Strings This Old Hse. Bid to Win The Jewish Americans (DVS) Ask This Old Michigan Greater Boston Basic Black | 4 4 PBS-B | Newshour with Jim Lenter | 35 35 35 95 95-90. | Newshour with Jim Lehrer | 68 68 68 TQS | Rire et délire | Chemin du golf | 23 96 96 BNN | Business News | Headline | 18 18 18 CNN | Situation Room-Wolf Bilzer | 54 54 54 GOLF | Golf Central | Big Break Worldfocus 110 pour cent elle (2006, Susp GetConnected Business News Squeeze Play Campbell Brown: No Bias Larry King Liv Market Call Commodities Market Call Market Can Lou Dobbs Tonight Monday After the Masters (N) Monday After the Masters (N) Larry King Live (N Cooper 360 exas Open -- First Round. (HDT 54 54 4 GOLF GOLF GORT Big Break 55 52 22 22 RSE Hockey Central Jays 55 55 55 SCOR (6) HSR HSR Countdown to All-Star (HDTV) 53 53 75 <td MLB Baseball New York Yankees Dave Despain All Star Special Life Derek Titan A.E. *** (2000) Comfy Couch | 33 43 FAM | Zoey 101 | Line Detect | Common | Total Drama 6TEEN 6TEEN Futurama Naht Grdn Max & Ruby Franklin Little Rea Prank Patrol Futurama CSI: Miami "Shock The First 48 (HDTV) The First 48 (HDTV) The First 48 By the Rapids | renegadepress | The Real McCoy ** (1993, Sus| Never Die Alone ** (2004, Suspense) DMX. Warriors: TKO Wapos Bay College Hill Bathroom Divas-Opera Star Home Improve. Home Improve. Air Farce Just for Laughs World's Wildest Police Videos Police Videos Cops Uncut Dumb Criminal Navy SEALs: Untold Stories MythBusters House Hunters Property Virgin Disaster DIY Big Amazing Holmes in New Orleans House Hunters Go Deep "Ice Wreck" Daddy's Girls Degrassi: TNG MuchMoreMusicOnStage 10 Items or Less ** (2006, Drama) NCIS "Lean of Fait Ancient Discoveries NCIS Technical Diff. Technical Diff. MuchTopTens Entourage The Daily Fix Ranked! nda (2008, Comedy Bounty Hunter Bounty Hunter Departures House-Payne House-Payne Friends Bounty Hunter Friends Friends Domes 206 206 206 PIX (6) Lethal Weapon 4 67 67 67 RDI RDI en direct RI The Hunted * (1995, Action), John Lo (8:15) The Left-Handed Gun ** (1958, Western) 24 Heures en 60 minutes Grands re RDI en direct Le Téléjournal (SC Grands reportages (S Trailer Park 39 39 39 SHOW Wife Swap 40 40 40 SLICE The Mom Sho 47 47 47 SPACE Stargate SG-1 Love-Death Love-Death X-Weighted "Michelle" Star Trek: Voyager The Outer Limits Trailer Park Skin Deep Stormworld X-Weighted House of the Dead * (2003, X-Weighted The Mom Show Til Deht-Part 14 14 14 SPIKE CSI: NY "Past Imperfect 57 98 98 STAR etalk Holly 21 21 21 TLC What Not to Wear TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N American Idol Extra (N) UFC Unleashed UFC Unleashed (HDTV The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N) Overhaulin' (HDTV) Tonight Show American Chopper American Chopper (N) Vanity Insanity Inside Hollywood Destinations Fourchette Seinfeld Seinfeld Raymond Family Guy Robin Hood: Men in Tights ** (1993) 28 28 28 V Mysterious Island Murder, She Wrote 60 97 71VIA Mysterious Ways Judging Amy "The Pilot" 22 22 22 12 12 Will & Grace Friends 251 251 251 WGN Be-Millionaire Evening News Two/Half Men Family Guy 'Allo, 'Allo Most Haunted House Save Us-House Divine Design WGN News

critics'corner—

Happy CD with a mix of

the usual jazz standards

CSI: Crime Scene

Investigation
Langston (Laurence Fishburne)
is required to use deadly force
for the first time in his career as a crime scene investigator as he and the team look into a sene and the team look into a series of murders tied to a scam in which poker chips from a long-defunct casino play a par Cynthia Watros ("Lost") and Gerald McRaney ("Jericho") guest star in the season finale, "All In." 10 PM on CBS, CJCH



10 Items or Less A sweet departure from his

usual ponderous roles, this 2006 comedy-drama stars Morgan comedy-drama stars Morgan Freeman as an actor cast as a grocery store manager after a few years out of work. Visiting an inner-city market to research the role, he befriends an insecure cashier (Paz Vega, "Spanglish"). She shows him what life is like in the not-so-fast lane while he belos her learn to embrace her. helps her learn to embrace her "inner leading lady." 10 PM on

Jack (Alec Baldwin) starts to build a relationship with his bio-logical father (guest star Alan Alda). Despite her own miserable Adda). Despite fier own miserable track record, Liz (Tina Fey) gets attention as a relationship expert after appearing on a talk show. Kenneth (Jack McBrayer) helps Tracy (Tracy Morgan) overcome embarrassing memories of high school in the new prisotle "Kid." school in the new episode "Kid nev Now!" 10:31 PM on NBC



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14 entertainment



Michael Jackson is working on a new signature dance move, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer has hired choreographer Kenny Ortega to come up with a unique move to rival his famous moonwalk ahead of his summer London residency. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Anna's posse pleads not quilty

DRAMA Three people in the late Anna Nicole Smith's closest circle pleaded not guilty yesterday to conspiring to provide the drugs that killed her in 2007, people.com reports.

Howard K. Stern, Smith's lawyer-boyfriend, her physician Sandeep Kapoor, and Smith's neighbour and psychiatrist Kristine Eroshevich, entered the pleas before the Los



Vanessa to bare all on screen?

RATED R You may be seeing a lot more of Vanessa Hudgens in the future. usmagazine.com reports.

"I will show nudity in a film when the time is right," the 20-year-old High School Musical star tells E! Online. "If it's an amazing movie that I'm really passionate about and that's what it calls for, then we'll see, she added.

The actress did appear nude in 2007, in personal photos that were leaked online.

SERVICES

From drug to rap addiction | Dad giving up on Amy?

QUOTABLE Eminem wanted to kill himself at the height of his addiction problems, femalefirst. co.uk reports.

The rapper -– who is set to release his new album following a three-year-break from music - admits he briefly considered committing suicide while

strugwith his

alcohol and drug problems.

He told British TV host talk-show Ionathan Ross: just wasn't taking care of myself, at times I wanted to just give it up.

'I was in a dark place. I wanted to pull back from the spotlight to reassess mv whole career," he added. "I got sober but it was pretty rough. A couple of years were bad for me.

The 36-year-old hip-hop star is thrilled with his new material and insists he is only addicted to work

these days.

He said: "I almost feel like a little kid again with rap. Rap was my drug. It used to get me high and then it stopped getting me high. Then I had to resort to other things to make me feel that ... now rap's getting me high again.

METRO WORLD NEWS

DAD'S LIMITS Amy Winehouse's dad, Mitch, has stood by his daughter through her troubles with

drugs. But now that those have been replaced with an alleged alcohol addiction, he says he's not sure he can continue to stick around.

"After she almost died twice from drug-related problems, to see her walking, smiling she has progressed

so much," Mitch says in a new TV documentary, according to Marie Claire

Moonwalk, the sequel?

"But now, if it's alcohol instead of hard drugs — I don't think I can go through that again. I've decided to distance myself, and whatever happens, hap-pens," he said. "It's her life. It's her career. It's her decision '

> METRO WORLD NEWS

K-Fed can't get enough from Brit?

SPENDER NOT SAVER Kevin Federline reportedly can't make ends meet with the \$40,000 US a month he receives from ex-wife Britney Spears.

The singer pays Federline \$20,000 a month for child support, plus an additional \$5,000 a week while

But according to the Na-

tional Enquirer, it's not enough to cover his monthly expenses: \$7,500 for rent on his Encino home. \$2,000 for food, \$1,500 for utilities, 0082 for booze, \$2,800 for a nanny for their two sons and \$3,000

guards.

"Kevin through millions of dollars," a source says. "When he and Britney divorced. Kevin continued the superstar lifestyle, and he spends all the money that he gets."

LiLo avoids burglary

RICH AND FAMOUS Burglars targeted Lindsay Lohan's home, femalefirst.co.uk reports. Police were called to the actress' Los Angeles property at about 3 p.m. on Tuesday after a security alarm at the property

was set off. A police officer said: "It was an attempted burglary. No property was taken. There was evidence that someone tried to get in her

house, but there's no evidence that they actually got inside or removed any of her property. After being alerted to a

problem by the property's alarm company, police went to investigate, and found evidence of an attempted break-in, including pry-marks on a door and damage to

a window. E! News has reported a man who has allegedly been stalking the 22-year-old star and making threats against her is a person of interest" in the NEWS SERVICES

Hugh wants own Rainbow Tribe



rah-Lee Furness. is reportedly planning to adopt another child may-be even two. "Hugh is a big believer in adopjust personally, but from a worldview of extending help to parentless children,' source tells the National Enquirer. "They are adopting another child now, and plan to welcome a fourth ... It has become their mis-METRO WORLD NEWS

Balance

environment • economy • energy

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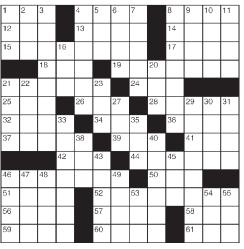






entertainment 15

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

4			7	9				1
	7					5	6	
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9			1					
5			8	7			1	
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7				4	3			5

Crossword across

- 1 Feathery neckpiece 4 Weevil invader
- 8 Diplomacy
- 12 Puncturing tool
- 13 Reed instrument
- 14 Petri-dish matter
- 15 Giving permission
- 17 Entice
- 18 Online address 19 Exhibition setting
- 21 Sweeney Todd, e.g.
- 24 Deposit 25 With 21-Down, "Arabian Nights" hero
- 26 Scoot
- 28 Rub the wrong way
- 32 Exclamation point 34 Conger or moray

- 36 podrida 37 Battle verbally
 - 39 Afternoon affair
 - 41 Fleur-de-
 - 42 Succumb to gravity
 - 44 Thing
 - 46 Baton wielder

 - 50 Journal
 - 51 Pinnacle
 - 52 Soothing
 - 56 Fit of peevishness 57 Voice of Fiona in
 - 'Shrek"
 - 58 Teachers' org
 - 59 Towel marking 60 A handful

61 Sailor

Crossword down

- 1 Sheepish remark? 2 Hooter
- 3 Sexy
- 4 Alley athlete 5 -Wan Kenobi
- 6 Protracted
- Constitutional
- 8 Hunter's cry 9 Chills and fever
- 10 Singer Vikki 11 Deuce beater
- 16 Sceptre topper
- 20 Fond du —, Wisc.
- 21 See 25-Across
- 22 Winged
- 23 Actress McClanahan 27 Trawler prop

- 29 Making a claim 30 Gendarme
- 31 Bridge position 33 Fabric inserts
- 35 Author Buscaglia
- 38 Pack away
- 40 Burning
- 43 Alumni
- 45 Cohort of Whoopi and
- Sherri 46 Hawkeye's sitcom
- 47 Dermatology subject
- 48 Ottoman potentate
- 49 Hodgepodge 53 Hasty escape
- 54 Ultramodern
- 55 Tie up the phone

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS: -1-1-1-1-1-1

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1	7	4	2	9	8	5	3	6
7	4	6	9	5	3	8	2	1
5	2	8	4	1	7	3	6	9
3	9	1	8	6	2	4	5	7

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU	SOLVE TIME:
Under 13	min Ge

Under 13 min	Geniu:
13-17 min	Schola

17-21 min	Smart
21-25 min	Not bad
25+ min	Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Mighty Burger

INGREDIENTS:

Oil for greasing 2/3 lb (300 g) lean ground lamb

2/3 lb (300 g) lean ground

 $\bar{2}$ tsp (10 ml) dried Italian herb mix, or mixed herbs 1 small egg 3 tbsp (45 ml) (85g) fresh

breadcrumbs Salt and black pepper

- A few drops of Worcestershire sauce 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 1 medium onion
- 1 large clove garlic 1–2 tsp (10 ml) chili powder
- 1 small red pepper 2 tomatoes
- 3 oz (85 g) button mushrooms 1/4 lb (110 g) mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 lb (110 g) cheddar

cheese METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C). Lightly oil 10-in. (25-cm) pizza sheet or baking pan.

2. Put meat into bowl. Add herbs, then stir in egg, breadcrumbs, salt, pepper and good splash of Worcestershire sauce. Mix well together.

3. Press mixture evenly on-

to pizza sheet, or put onto baking tray and shape into 10-in. (25-cm) round. Cook burger in oven for 15-20 minutes.

Take Five

4. Meanwhile, heat olive oil in frying pan. Peel and chop onion and garlic. Add to oil and fry until soft, 5 minutes. Štir in chili powder and remove from heat.

5. Rinse pepper and tomatoes and clean mushrooms. Deseed and dice pepper, then slice tomatoes and mushrooms. Cut mozzarella into thin slices and grate cheddar. 6. Remove burger from oven and drain off liquid; increase oven temperature to 425 F (220 C).

7. Spread onion mixture over burger. Add pepper, tomatoes and mushrooms. Sprinkle cheese on top. Bake for 5 minutes, or until cheese melts. Serve in wedges with crusty bread, salad and ketchup.

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

(≗)

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Make the world sit up and take notice of you today. Do something that no one can possibly ignore. It's time to get yourself noticed again.

LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

Anyone who thinks you've not been your happy-go-lucky self lately will have to revise their opinion in the next few days as the smile returns to your face.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

Sometimes it's nice to go with the flow and let others call the tune: this is one of those times. If you get lost in the crowd today it won't worry you.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22 What you have to do today may make you unpopular but you won't shirk responsibilities for the sake of people whose respect you can live without.

GEMINI (g)

MAY 22-JUNE 21

You may feel a need to prove yourself but you also need to be realistic about what you can achieve. Aim high today but don't lose sight of who you are.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

You want to support a plan that means a lot to a friend but you suspect it may not be good for them or you. Go through it with them point by point.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

You may feel out of your depth but it's nothing to worry about, so don't be discouraged. Others may know more but they don't have your tenacity or sensitivity.

CAPRICORN **DEC 22-JAN 20**

Not everyone who makes you an offer is out to steal your mon-ey. Someone who approaches you with a money-making idea should be listened to.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

You're determined to make up for lost time and the best way to do that is to have a good time. But make time too for those who are still stuck

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18

If you value your peace of mind you must not get involved in other people's relationship problems, not even if they ask you to mediate.

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

Others may say you should suppress your natural instincts but you know you won't be happy if you do, so ignore their advice and do what feels right to you.

sallybrompton.com

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

You will feel much better about yourself today if you forget about your duties and chores for a while and spend time doing what makes you feel happy.

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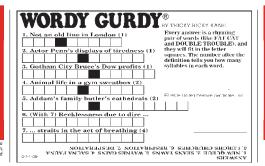
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